



February 10, 2006

Dear Friends:

This week, President Bush presented Congress with his \$2.77 trillion Fiscal Year 2007 budget. The president's budget once again increases the deficit by more than \$354 billion and requires paying a disturbing \$247 billion in interest to service the national debt – the fourth largest expenditure following Social Security (\$581 billion), defense (\$434 billion) and Medicare (\$387 billion).

The president's budget exposes the administration's dangerous addiction to deficit spending. Massive borrowing from foreign creditors, including China and Saudi Arabia, is paying for the hundreds of billions of dollars being spent on special interest tax giveaways and the Iraq War. Meanwhile this budget cuts the federal investment needed to protect American families from the skyrocketing cost of healthcare, education and energy.

All Americans – Democrats, Republicans and Independents need to work together – to scrap this dangerous deficit budget and start fresh. Congress must reinvest in the American people, make our communities secure and ensure that our nation can confront the threat of terrorism. This starts by working to draft a budget that is honest and reflects the real needs of the American people.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Betty McCollum  
Serving Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District

#### **President Bush's FY2007 Budget by the Numbers**

- \$2.77 trillion** – total Bush Budget submitted to Congress
- \$1.7 trillion** – cost of Bush tax give-ways (2007-2016)
- \$354 billion increase** in the federal deficit in 2007
- \$105 billion cut** from Medicare (2007-2016)
- \$42.3 billion cut** from Medicaid (2007-2016)
- \$2.1 billion cut** from education
- \$13 million cut** from medical/prosthetic research at the Veterans Administration
- \$0 – ELIMINATED:** Perkins loan forgiveness for students pursuing careers in police, teaching, military
- \$0 – ELIMINATED:** Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection
- \$0 – ELIMINATED:** COPS Law Enforcement Technology grants
- \$0 – ELIMINATED:** Safe and Drug Free Schools
- \$0** – amount in Bush Budget to feed, clothe and protect U.S. troops in Iraq

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